

Minutes of the Amherst Public Arts Commission, June 7, 2012

First floor meeting room in the Amherst Town Hall, 3:15 p.m.

Present: Terry Rooney (Chair), Randa Nachbar, Jenny Lind, Jim Wald (Select Board liaison)
Bonnie Isman, Rene Theberge

Absent: Rachel Hankinson, Rosario Gaddier

Terry expressed her appreciation for Rachel who went to the memorial services for APAC member Diane Westfall. Terry wants to dedicate the Biennial “yarn bombing” events to Diane.

Little White House Project. Public reaction to the White House project has been very positive. There have been a few problems with vandalism, and the artist relocated two of the houses to a more protected area. The Boston Globe ran a review of the project in the May 22 issue expanding public exposure of Peter’s work and of the Dickinson Museum and APAC. Tiles submitted by professional artists for “Emily’s Rhapsody” will be on display in the museum through June. Terry thanked Rosario for helping with this exhibit.

Committee Appointments. Terry welcomed Rene Theberge who has applied to join APAC. His appointment and Jenny Lind’s must be approved by the Select Board.

Town Hall art exhibits. Sheryl Jaffee will have her opening today. Terry and Rene have arranged for the Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists to exhibit in August-September. Jenny suggested inviting Leverett Crafts and Arts Center for a group show in December, after the Biennial. Terry will contact them.

Amherst Biennial 2012 update. We are still in the running for an Adams Arts Grant from the Mass. Cultural Council. Terry was contacted and has provided them with additional information. The decision timing is not posted, but grants start as of July 1.

The following sites will participate: Amherst College Frost Library gallery, the lawn in front of Mead Art Museum, University of Mass Hampden Gallery (in Southwest), projection space on the Fine Arts Center, and a sound installation using Old Chapel, Eric Carle Museum lobby, grounds of the Emily Dickinson Museum, the Hills site, atrium of the Jones Library, Bank of America ATM lobby, Hastings, the vacant Michelson’s gallery building, Hope & Feathers Gallery; Freedom Trails gallery, Town Hall, Kendrick and Sweetser Parks. Jim offered to help contact Hampshire College to see if they will provide space.

Thirty artists have been selected, so far, and Terry is contacting all applicants. Catalog design has begun using the same designer as in 2010. Terry is working on logistics for a carillon/video projection event at UMass. Randa will ask Amherst Media about projectors, and Terry will check with Eva Fierst at UMass. Terry will meet Friday with Susan Loring Wells who is willing to work on “yarn bombing” events.

Bonnie urged Terry to delegate some work, and Jenny suggested that Eva Fierst could help with publicity. She is still looking for a “signature piece” to use in posters, etc. Terry reports the Biennial blog <http://www.amherstbiennial.com/> had 600 hits in the past two months.

Minutes. No action.

Adjourned, 4:10 p.m.

Submitted by Bonnie Isman